

Parkway Primary School

Smoke Free Policy



January 2023

Contents

Aims	3
Objectives	3
Rationale.....	3
Other Related Policies / Guidance.....	4
Providing a Smoke free Environment (procedure).....	4
Smoking Prevention Activities (procedure).....	4
Responding to Smoking Related Incidents	5
Assistance for those who smoke	5
Review & Implementation Dates.....	5

Parkway Primary School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment.

The school recognises that children and young people, staff and visitors have the right to breathe Smoke free air in and around the school. We acknowledge that exposure to second-hand smoke, also known as passive smoking, increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses. We know that smoking is a habit of childhood and that is why we are committed to creating a Smoke free environment which includes smoke free school gates, and developing children and young people's knowledge, attitudes and skills in positive decision making around smoking.

Aims

- Protect the right of children, staff, parents and visitors to not be exposed to second-hand smoke
- Improve the health of children, teachers and support staff
- Educate children and parents on the dangers of smoking and smoking around children.
- Provide encouragement, support and signposting to smokers who wish to give up smoking
- Reduce litter around the school gates
- Be a healthy role model within the local community
- Contribute towards de-normalisation of smoking amongst children and young people

Objectives

- To provide a Smoke free environment, including the school gates
- To implement smoke free signage at the school gates
- To have tobacco education as part of the PSHE curriculum
- To adopt and support interventions to prevent the uptake of smoking amongst children
- To signpost support to adults who need support to quit smoking
- To encourage staff promote healthy lifestyles with a positive attitude
- To ensure staff have the knowledge and understanding of policies, procedures and agreed practice to support the implementation of the Smoke free policy
- To involve all stakeholders and other outside agencies as appropriate, in the development of policy and practice in relation to tobacco
- To ensure that this policy is applied when children are taken off site

Rationale

All members of the community have the right to work and learn in a Smoke free environment. Reasons for having a smoke free environment include:

- Exposure to second-hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other illnesses.
- Exposure to role models, who smoke normalises smoking behaviour, can have a significant negative impact on the Smoke free message.
- Smoking is the biggest cause of preventable death in London and over 17,800 people die from smoking in London every year - that's 49 people a day.
- Children who live with smokers are up to four times more likely to become smokers than children who live with non-smokers
- Those who start smoking before the age of 16 are twice as likely to continue to smoke compared to those who begin later in life, they are more likely to be heavier smokers.
- The earlier children become regular smokers, the greater their risk of developing life-threatening conditions, such as lung cancer or heart disease if they continue smoking into adulthood.

- A Smoke free space provides positive health promotion for children and young people, contributing to the development of children and young people for life.

Other Related Policies / Guidance

Within Parkway Primary School this policy is linked to/consistent with:

- PSHE Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Policy
- Behaviour Policy

Providing a Smoke free Environment (procedure)

This policy applies to children, staff, parents/carers, members of the public, contractors or others working / using the premises or vehicles and all vehicles used to transport children.

Smoking is not permitted in any part of the premises and grounds including the entrance area (the gates), on land adjacent to the building (e.g. car parks, garden areas, walkways, playgrounds, playing fields etc.) or on the road crossing patrol areas. This policy will apply equally to future premises at the construction stage of any new building and refurbishment or relocation project.

Staff and visitors who smoke will need to do so outside of the premises and away from the school gates. There are no designated smoking areas provided within the building or grounds.

The policy applies to all events / activities held in the premise, any meetings organised which are attended by employees as part of their work and/or visitors to such meetings/events.

Suitable posters, displays and signage will be displayed in areas to create a positive visual message which supports a Smoke free environment.

Smoking is not permitted in any owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying children or staff on business. Please note: this is a statutory requirement.

Schools also have a duty to reinforce the smoking legislation on buses used for transport of children.

This policy applies when children are taken off site on excursions/ visits/ trips. Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking is not permitted when on duty/ looking after children.

Smoking Prevention Activities (procedure)

Employees are not permitted to smoke in the view of children. Employees who do smoke will be asked to ensure they cannot be seen smoking by children (even if it is off the grounds).

Tobacco education is part of the PSHE curriculum (including the health effects, legal, economic and social aspects of tobacco use) which may be delivered across the curriculum (biology, chemistry, citizenship, geography, mathematics and media studies). The school supports tobacco education through the transition phase from primary to secondary school.

Parents/carers are encouraged and supported to be actively involved in their child's tobacco education through home/ school activities etc.

Responding to Smoking Related Incidents

The following procedures will apply when there is non-compliance with the Smoke free policy:

Staff: The Disciplinary Procedure will be followed for members of staff who do not comply with the Smoke free policy. The staff member will be offered support to help them quit smoking.

Non-staff members/ visitors: Staff are authorised to ask non-employees who breach the policy to adhere to the policy.

Assistance for those who smoke

Bexley Stop Smoking Service is available to anyone who wants to stop smoking and who has a Bexley GP. They offer FREE, friendly and effective practical support as well as advice on stop smoking medications that are proven to double your chance of successfully quitting.

Their service offers the full range of evidence-based smoking cessation medications. It includes:

- 12 weeks support from their Specialist Stop Smoking Advisors
- Weekly appointments in person or by telephone
- Support for Pregnant Smokers
- Advise and support for those who wish to use a Vape

Call Smoke free Bexley on 0800 783 2514 or visit www.smokefreebexley.co.uk for more information or to register for support.

For signposting people who are not registered with a Bexley GP Practice, they can visit www.stopsmokinglondon.com to find support in their area, or visit www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking

The school will promote these services within the reception area and through the school newsletters.

Review & Implementation Dates

The school leadership team will monitor the effectiveness of this and all of our policies and procedures and conduct a full review and update as appropriate.

Our monitoring and review will include looking at how our policies and procedures are working in practice to reduce the risks posed to the School.

The outcome of the review will be communicated to all those involved, as appropriate.

The above Policy was completed by: Dami Alabi Spring 2023